

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE OF UTAH

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IN THE MATTER OF TENTATIVE
DECISION TO APPROVE THE MINING
AND RECLAMATION PLAN FOR
CARGILL SALT'S TIMPIE SOLAR PONDS,
TOOELE COUNTY, UTAH

NOTICE OF TENTATIVE
DECISION TO APPROVE
NO. M/045/030

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THE STATE OF UTAH TO ALL OPERATORS, TAKERS OF PRODUCTION,
MINERAL AND ROYALTY OWNERS, AND PARTICULARLY ALL PERSONS
INTERESTED IN SECTIONS 4, 5, 6, 7, AND 8, TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST;
SECTIONS 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, AND 34, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST;
SECTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 12, TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 8 WEST; AND SECTIONS
24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, AND 36, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, SLBM,
TOOELE COUNTY, UTAH.

Notice is hereby given by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining of its tentative decision to approve the Mining and Reclamation Plan for Cargill Salt's Timpie Solar Ponds. Mining activities will affect portions of the following area: Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Township 1 South, Range 7 West; Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34, Township 1 North, Range 7 West; Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 12, Township 1 South, Range 8 West; and Sections 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, Township 1 North, Range 8 West, SLBM, Tooele County, Utah.

Cargill Salt has submitted a large mine permit application to continue operating the existing Timpie Solar Ponds mining operation (formerly operated by Akzo Salt of Utah). Cargill Salt will employ the following mining and reclamation techniques on approximately 17,100 acres of land at the mine site (evaporation ponds, storage and disposal areas, etc.) and approximately 153 acres of associated on-site processing facilities located on State, Bureau of Land Management and Fee land.

During Operations: This is an existing solar salt evaporation operation previously owned by Akzo Salt of Utah. Salt water is evaporated, concentrated and circulated through a series of large shallow ponds. The concentrated brine eventually reaches saturation and salt is precipitated and deposited on the bottom of the crystalizing ponds. The salt is harvested from these ponds and is then transported to the wash plant where it is cleaned and dewatered, then stockpiled for storage. Salt is then conveyed to the mill where it is dried and screened. The salt is then either further processed, bagged or shipped to market.

After Operations: All processing facilities, buildings/structures will be demolished and the debris removed from the site. The affected area will then be regraded. The stockpile location will be ripped and turned, then covered with 12 inches of topsoil. The facilities and stockpile areas will be seeded as directed by the Division and the approved reclamation plan. The north dike will be left intact to protect route I-80 from flooding. The dikes protecting the Timpie waterfowl area will also remain in place. Two concrete gates will be removed, all other gates will be opened to let the containment dikes erode naturally over time.

The person representing the company is Mr. Lyndon Jones; phone (435) 884-0123. Cargill Salt is fulfilling obligations under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975, Utah Code Ann. §40-8-18.

Any person or agency aggrieved by this tentative decision to issue approval is hereby requested to submit written protest within thirty (30) days of the date of publication to Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Acting Associate Director of Mining, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801, setting forth factual reasons for the complaint. If no responsive written protests are received by the Division within 30 days after the last date of publication, the tentative decision of the Division will be final.

DATED THIS 28 day of August, 2000

STATE OF UTAH
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING



Lowell P. Braxton
Director

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Tentative Decision to Approve for Cargill Salt's Timpie Solar Ponds project (M/045/030) to be sent via facsimile, electronic mail or mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, the 28th day of August, 2000 to:


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Joelle Burns, Secretary

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